

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager
SUBJECT: Friday Update
DATE: November 3, 2017

Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion posts in Cottage Grove will be conducting the Veterans Day Ceremony in the Cottage Grove Armory on Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 11:00 am.

City Veterans Day Closures

In honor of Veterans Day, City offices will be closed on Friday, November 10th. The Library will be open on November 10th but will close for Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11th.

Youth Advisory Council

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will meet on Monday, November 6th from 6:15 to 7:30 pm in City Hall. There is still room on the YAC for interested youth to be a part of this wonderful opportunity. Any youth that may be interested could attend Monday and sign up if they find it interesting.

Halloween a Howling Success

Thank you to everyone that made the downtown Halloween Howl a huge success. The downtown event provided a safe activity for all ages. The Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Program organized the event and pulled together other volunteers and groups to make it a fun activity.

Once again the annual City Staff Pumpkin Carving/Decorating contest was popular with the kids and adults “Trick or Treating” at City Hall. Thank you to the staff and family members who created some amazing displays. Also thank you to our distinguished judges – City Councilmembers (or their proxy) and YAC members that performed the grueling task of judging the creations. The final awards were:

	<u>Scariest</u>	<u>Funniest</u>	<u>Best Department Theme</u>
1 st	Public Works	Library	Police Department
2 nd	Finance	I.T. Staff	City Attorney Staff
3 rd	Public Works Director	Custodian	Development Staff

Again, thank you to everyone that participated in making the 2017 Downtown Halloween Howl a success.

Free Safety Bike or Walk Lights

Lane Transit District and Point2Point will be partnering with the Oregon Department of Transportation to hand out free bike or walk lights on Wednesday, November 15th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in the Bohemia Park Pavilion. Stop by and pick up a light to make it safer to ride, walk or pedal.

Annual Labor and Employment Law Briefing

The Finance Director and Payroll/HR Specialist attended the Annual Labor and Employment Law Briefing held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, sponsored by Bullard Law. The briefing is an annual event to inform employers about the latest updates facing labor, employment, and benefits.

The following topics were discussed: Employment Case Law, Immigration Compliance for Employers, Nonqualified Deferred Compensations Plan Regulations and Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Workplace. The presentations were very informative and provided timely information.

Recycling Changes

Recycling opportunities throughout the State are changing because of major changes in the markets for recyclable materials. Currently, plastics are facing restrictions and are not being accepted at recycling centers. Effective immediately Cottage Grove Garbage Service is not accepting any type of plastic in recycling. Customers are asked to place all plastics in the regular trash. In addition to the changes in recycling, State Law has required the creation of local contamination reduction plans to reduce contamination of recyclables. City staff and Cottage Grove Garbage Service have been developing the plan for the City. Visit the City's web page for more information.

Police Department News

After serving 14 years with the Cottage Grove Police Department, Sgt. David Burgin's last day with the department was October 27th. This created an opening for a Sergeant position. The department recruited for the position which closed November 1st. The department will now begin the selection process and hope to have the position filled by December.

Detectives Tami Miles and Shawn Branstetter recently attended the Basic Detective Academy training at the Department of Police Safety Standards in Salem. This course was a total of eighty (80) hours of training that covered a variety of topics.

Collage Poetry at the Library

On Wednesday, November 8th from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, the Cottage Grove Public Library will be hosting a Collage Poetry experience for teens. "Unleash your story" and create original poetry using collage materials. This will be a fun and interactive teen experience.

Minoru Yasui Film at the Library

Please join us for a screening of the film: *Never Give Up: Minoru Yasui and the Fight for Justice*. This documentary film about the life and work of Minoru Yasui by Holly Yasui and George Doolittle and narrated by George Takei will be at the Cottage Grove Public Library on Monday, November 20th at 6:00 pm followed by a skype session with Holly Yasui.

Minoru Yasui was an American lawyer from Oregon, born in Hood River. He earned both an undergraduate and law degree at the University of Oregon. He was one of the few Japanese Americans after the bombing of Pearl Harbor who fought laws that directly targeted Japanese Americans or Japanese immigrants. His case was the first case to test the constitutionality of the curfews targeted at minority groups.

Utility Leadman Position Filled

On Monday, October 30th, the Public Works & Development Department held four interviews for the Utility Leadman Position. Greg Griswell from Salina, Kansas accepted the City's offer of employment and will start work on December 1st. Greg currently works for the City of Salina as the Water Distribution Supervisor. He oversees 14 employees that maintain, repair and improve over 225 miles of water lines that serve over 50,000 people. We are excited to have Greg bring his experience and skills to Cottage Grove and join our Utility Division family.

South 6th Street and Mosby Creek Road Repaving Update

A huge thank you goes out to Knife River and the Engineering and Utility Divisions of the Public Works & Development Department for the repaving of South 6th Street and Mosby Creek Road. On Thursday, Knife River completed applying the new asphalt to both Mosby Creek Road and South 6th Street. In fact, the last load of asphalt that completed the repaving was applied at 11:30 am Thursday just as the rain started to fall. Knife River and their crew worked long days to complete the paving before the rains started on Thursday. Next week Knife River is planning to repaint both roads when the nice weather returns. They will also finish replacing manhole and water valve covers, bringing both of these jobs to a close. There has been a large out pouring of support and thank you's from the public for repairing both South 6th Street and Mosby Creek Road. Job well done.

The railroad crossing on South 6th Street will also be repaired as soon as it is scheduled with the railroad.

OAPA/ISOCARP Smart Communities Joint Conference

City Planner Amanda Ferguson attended a joint conference held by the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (OAPA) and the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) in Portland from October 24th through the 27th. This conference brought together over 600 planners from 38 different countries to explore the convergence of technology and planning. Amanda was part of the OAPA Program Committee for this conference and moderated several sessions on Resilience Adaptation and Disaster Mitigation.

Quote of the Week

"You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one. I hope someday you'll join us. And the world will live as one."

~John Lennon~